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tube

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tube

auditory tube

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breathing tube

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Main Entry: **tube**

Pronunciation: 'tüb, 'tyübl

Function: *noun*

Etymology: French, from Latin *tubus*; akin to Latin *tuba* trumpet

Date: 1651

1 : any of various usu. cylindrical structures or devices: as **a** : a hollow elongated cylinder; *especially* : one to convey fluids **b** : a soft tubular container whose contents (as toothpaste) can be removed by squeezing **c** (1) : **TUNNEL** (2) *British* : **SUBWAY** **b d** : the basically cylindrical section between the mouthpiece and bell that is the fundamental part of a wind instrument

2 **a** : a slender channel (as a fallopian tube or a pollen tube) within a plant or animal body : **DUCT** **b** : the narrow basal portion of a corolla with united petals or a calyx with united sepals

3 : **INNER TUBE**

4 **a** : **ELECTRON TUBE**; *especially* : **VACUUM TUBE** **b** : **CATHODE-RAY TUBE**; *especially* : a television picture tube **c** : **TELEVISION**

5 : an article of clothing shaped like a tube <a tube top> <tube socks>

— **tubed** 'tüb, 'tyübd *adjective*

— **tube-like** 'tüb-, 'lik, 'tyübl- *adjective*

— **down the tube** or **down the tubes** : into a state of collapse or deterioration

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Pronunciation Symbols

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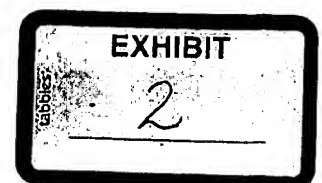
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